malafide action on the part of any official. As reported by Indian Bank, the bank has initiated disciplinary proceedings against officers for the lapses and the particulars of punishment imposed are given below:

Items	1997	1998	1999
No. of cases in which punishment has been imposed	111	127	193
Sanction given to CBI for prosecution of officiers	6	12	8
Of the above major penalty imposed	25	61	49
Disiplinary cases pending against officers as on 31.12.99	—	—	235
No. of PE/REs registered by CBI	4	17	4

Prosecution Against Vanishing Companies

517. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have launched any prosecution against the vanishing companies all over the country as pointed out by SEBI; and

(b) if so, whether prosecution has since been launched against all such companies and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Action against several companies which have defaulted in their commitments made to the public while mobilizing funds, has been taken by the regulatory agencies, namely, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)/Department of Company Affiars (DCA)/Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

Companies which mobilise resources through public issues in the

capital market come under the regulatory purview of SEBI. SEBI has so far identified 129 companies as 'vanishing' companies and has issued order to 51 companies and 142 promoters/directors of these companies, prohibiting them from associating with any capital market activity for a period of 5 years.

Companies which take deposits from the public are regulated by DCA. DCA has launched prosecution against 63 companies under the Companies Act, 1956.

The Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) are under the jurisdiction of RBI. RBI has launched prosecution proceedings against 24 NBFCs and has filed police complaints against another 10 companies.

Drug trafficking on Indo-Nepal Border

518. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that drug trafficking, gold sumuggling, flesh trade and inflow of counterfeit currency has increased manifold on the Indo-Nepal border since 1994 and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps so far taken to curb the activities of smugglers on that border during the last two years and with what result?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) It is very difficult to quantify smuggling/drug trafficking being a clandestine activity. There is no evidence to take a view that drug trafficking/smuggling has gone up manifold along Indo-Negpal Border since 1994. As against 1082 kgs., 20221 kgs. & 4,140 kgs. of Charas, Ganja & Heroin (including Brown Sugar) respectively, seized in 1994 by three Customs Commissionerates along Indo-nepal Border & DRI, 1336 kgs. 9047 Kgs. & 12.445 Kgs. respectively were seized during 1999. Value of Bold seizures were placed at Rs. 30.6 Lakhs in 1994 & Rs. 69.4 Lakhs in 1999. Counterfeit currency—997 notes of Rs. 100/- Denomination each was also seized for the first time in 1999.

(b) All the three Commissionerates of Customs Preventive along